



**Seattle City Council
Public Safety, Civil Rights and Technology Committee
City of Seattle**

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 16, 2012

TO: Councilmember Bruce Harrell, Chair
Public Safety, Civil Rights and Technology Committee
Seattle City Council

FROM: Felicia Yearwood, Commission Liaison
Seattle Office for Civil Rights

SUBJECT: Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities 2012 Work Plan
Wednesday, April 18, 2012, 2:00 PM City Hall 2nd Floor

Presenters: Mary Beth Lum, Co-Chair, Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities
Mike Barta, Co-Chair, Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities
Julie Nelson, Director, Seattle Office for Civil Rights

Purpose of Meeting:

Presentation and discussion of Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities 2012 work plan

Project Background, Analysis, and Summary:

The Commission developed its work plan based on input from individuals and advocates who participated in roundtable discussions at the inception of the commission and based on discussions at the Commission's annual retreat.

The Commission's work plan is organized in accordance with its committees

- Issues
- Education and Training
- Outreach

Issues: Monitor and provide expertise on issues that affect people with disabilities in Transportation, Housing, Employment and Public Accommodations

- **Transportation:**
 - Continue working with SDOT to curb abuse of parking placards. Reaffirm opposition to four hour time limit
 - Address increase in fare for bus passes and removal of annual pass option
 - Assess other transportation issues: Sidewalk and street access, taxicab access, and training of transit employees

- **Housing:**
 - Engage community regarding housing discrimination
- **Employment**
 - Research the City's ability to recruit, hire, and retain employees with disabilities
- **Public Accommodations:**
 - Access within tunnel and on Metro buses
 - Gender neutral accessible bathrooms
 - Great student initiative
 - Project Civic Access

Education and Training: Ensure that key City staff and organizations outside the City have information and training to enable effective interaction with individuals who have disabilities

- Respond to community requests for training
- Educate the commissioners on how to conduct trainings effectively
- Work with emergency preparedness personnel and officials
- Assess current awareness training for police, fire, and emergency services
- Identify best practices and submit recommendations to each department

Outreach: Conduct inclusive outreach to communities where individuals with disabilities often experience isolation

- Improve listserv by making it more interactive
- Represent the Commission at four community events
- Hold one commission meeting per quarter in a Seattle neighborhood
- Host a Goal Ball or wheelchair basketball event